

NEWS RELEASE

Pacific Northwest Region - Colville National Forest
765 S. Main Street, Colville, WA 99114, www.fs.usda.gov/colville

Contact: Franklin Pemberton, 509.684.7177

January 3, 2014

Members Needed for Colville Resource Advisory Committee

Colville, WA- The Colville Resource Advisory Committee is seeking nominees to serve on a 15-member Resource Advisory Committee (RAC). The committee's duties include recommending projects and funding to improve forest health, watersheds, roads and facilities on or adjacent to the Colville National Forest.

RAC committee members will be officially appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture for a term of 2 years; shall not receive compensation; and must be able to commit the time necessary to carry out the committee responsibilities of several full-day meetings each year. Members must reside within the Ferry, Stevens and Pend Oreille County to the extent practicable.

The Colville RAC has a proven track record of improving collaborative relationships, working across a wide variety of interests to successfully propose projects and associated funding for improvements that benefit the residents of northeast Washington, as well as those who come to visit the Colville National Forest. Past projects include; noxious weed control, road realignment, trail construction and improvement and the restoration of fish passage to restore native species.

New advisory committee members will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and must represent a wide variety of interests. These committees are to be balanced and diverse with equal representation from industry, environmental groups, recreation groups, elected officials, and local residents. Specifically, the composition of each RAC is to be balanced according to the following three interest categories identified in P.L.106-393. Current vacancies on the Colville RAC exist in all three categories.

-MORE-



for the greatest good

Category A: Represents one or more of the following interests:

- Organized labor or non-timber forest products harvester group
- Developed outdoor recreation, off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation
- Energy and mineral development
- Commercial timber industry
- Federal grazing permit holders or land use permit holders within the RAC area

Category B: Represents one or more of the following interests:

- Nationally recognized environmental organizations
- Regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations
- Dispersed recreation activities
- Archaeological and historical interests
- Nationally or regionally recognized wild horse or burro groups

Category C: Represents one or more of the following interests:

- State-elected office holders or their designee
- County or local elected office holders
- American Indian tribal representatives from tribes within or adjacent to RAC areas
- School officials or teachers
- Citizens representing the affected public at large

Nominees will be evaluated based on their training and experience working with the interest they represent, their demonstrated commitment to collaborative decision-making, and their contribution to the balance and diversity of the RAC.

If you are interested in serving on the Colville RAC, or would like more information about the responsibilities of the RAC, please contact Franklin Pemberton, Colville RAC Coordinator at (509) 684-7000, or by email at: fpemberton@fs.fed.us. Nominations are being accepted until all positions are filled.

-END-

The mission of the US Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. Recreational activities on our lands contribute \$14.5 billion annually to the U.S. economy. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world.



for the greatest good